- (1) Defendant's Motion to Amend (Dkt. #121) is GRANTED. The Court agrees that the good faith standard set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16 is not applicable to this motion because defendant has not sought to amend a pleading after the time allowed in the case scheduling order. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 16. Furthermore, plaintiff has made only bald assertions of prejudice, and has provided no specific information persuading this Court that further discovery will be necessary should the Court allow this amendment. Accordingly, the Court will allow defendant to amend its affirmative defense.
- (2) Defendant shall electronically file its Amended Answer, <u>no later than three days from the date of this Order.</u>
  - (3) The Clerk shall forward a copy of this Order to all counsel of record. DATED this 17th day of August, 2006.

RICARDO S. MARTINEZ UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE